

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-8 have been canceled in favor of new claims 9-17, which better define the subject matter Applicant regards as the invention. Support for the features recited in claims 9-17 is provided in the original claims and the specification on page 9, lines 21-27, page 10, lines 1-5, page 11, lines 4-8, page 13, lines 20-27, page 17, lines 2-7, page 18, lines 7-23, page 23, lines 19-27, page 24, lines 1-12, and page 25, lines 14-18.

Claims 1-8 were was rejected, under 35 USC §103(a), as being unpatentable over Yukitomo et al. (EP 0 924 876) in view of Boros et al. (US 6,615,024) and alternatively over Yukitomo in view of Wan et al. (US 5,621,769). To the extent these rejections may be deemed applicable to new claims 9-17, Applicant respectfully traverses.

Independent claims 9 and 17 recite the feature of switching between updating and not updating weights for directional reception depending on the reliability of hard decision data. This feature provides the advantage of forming directivity using only weights of high accuracy, so that it is possible to implement accurate directional reception employing the desired directivity.

By contrast to the claimed feature, Yukitomo discloses switching between a first weight and a second weight depending on the channel quality. More particularly, Yukitomo discloses multiplying a received signal by the second weight when channel quality deteriorates. To accomplish this, switch 105 changes the connections between one of the first weight controller 103 and second weight controller 104 and multipliers 107 and 108 depending on the channel quality. Switch 105 does not switch between updating and not updating weights depending on the reliability of hard decision data, as recited in claim 9 and 17.

If hard decision data has low reliability, according to the present invention, weights are not updated but, instead, weights that were determined earlier continue being used. Yukitomo differs from the claimed feature in that switch 105 switches from the first weight to the second weight when channel quality deteriorates.

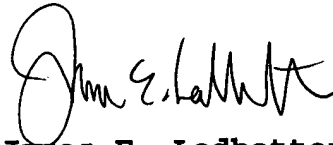
Boros discloses generating a receive weight vector using a reference signal. Wan discloses adjusting signals with a weighting factor before a decision is performed. As a result, neither Boros nor Wan supplement the teachings of Yukitomo with respect to the feature distinguishing claims 9 and 17 from Yukitomo.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the applied references do not teach or suggest the subject matter defined by claims 9 and 17. Therefore, allowance of claims 9 and 17 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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